

In the Claims:

We claim:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) Friction-lining segment (3.1, 3.2, 3.3; 13.1, 13.2; 23.1, 23.2; 33.1, 33.2) for a segmented friction lining (3, 13, 23, 33) of a friction plate (1) for a brake or clutch with a lock mechanism (4.1, 4.2, 4.3; 14.1; 24.1; 34.1) arranged on one end and/or with a lock counter mechanism (5.1, 5.2, 5.3; 15.2; 25.2; 35.2) arranged on the other end characterized in that said lock mechanism (34.1) and/or said lock counter mechanism (35.2) demonstrates a clip (4.1, 4.2, 4.3; 14.1,; 24.1; 34.1a, 34.1b; 35.2a, 35.2b) characterized in that said clip (4.1, 4.2, 4.3; 14.1, 24.1, 34.1a, 34.1b, 35.2a, 35.2b) demonstrates a neck (14.1b; 24.1b; 34.1b, 35.2b) and a head (14.1a; 24.1a; 34.1a, 35.2a) and that at least one hole (8.1, 8.2, 8.3; 18.1; 38.1a, 38.2a) is located in said head (14.1a, 24.1a; 34.1a, 35.2a), said at least one hole (8.1, 8.2, 8.3; 18.1, 38.1a, 38.2a) demonstrates an outside contour which essentially corresponds to the outside contour of said head (14.1a, 24.1a; 34.1a, 35.2a).

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Presented) Friction-lining segment according to Claim 4 3, characterized in that said head (34.1a, 35.2a) is designed rhombic and demonstrates at least one hole (38.1a) with an ellipse-shaped outside contour.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) Friction lining (3, 13, 23, 33) of a friction plate for a brake or clutch,

having at least a first and a second friction-lining segments (3.1, 3.2, 3.3; 13.1, 13.2; 23.1, 23.2; 33.1, 33.2) adjoining each other on at least one end, wherein

on a end adjoining one end of said second friction-lining segment (3.1, 3.2, 3.3; 13.1, 13.2; 23.1, 23.2; 33.1, 33.2), said first friction-lining segment (3.1, 3.2, 3.3; 13.1, 13.2; 23.1, 23.2; 33.1, 33.2) demonstrates a lock mechanism (4.1, 4.2, 4.3; 14.1; 24.1; 34.1), which

connects to a lock counter-mechanism (5.1, 5.2, 5.3; 15.2; 25.2; 35.2) arranged on the adjoining end of said second friction-lining segment (3.1, 3.2, 3.3; 13.1, 13.2; 23.1, 23.2; 33.1, 33.2), forming a lock (6.1, 6.2, 6.3; 16.1; 26.1; 36.1).

characterized in that

at least one hole (8.1, 8.2, 8.3; 18.1; 28.1a, 28.1b; 38.1a, 38.1b, 38.1c, 38.2a) is provided in a vicinity (7.1, 7.2, 7.3; 17.1; 27.1; 37.1) of said lock (6.1, 6.2, 6.3; 16.1; 26.1; 36.1) and at least one other hole is provided in the vicinity of said lock counter-mechanism whereby the at least one hole in the lock mechanism and the at least one other hole in the lock counter-mechanism increase the elasticity of the friction lining in the vicinity of the lock to reduce stress on the friction lining in the area of the lock.

9. (Previously Presented) Friction lining (3, 13, 23, 33) of a friction plate for a brake or clutch,

having at least a first and a second friction-lining segments (3.1, 3.2, 3.3; 13.1, 13.2; 23.1, 23.2; 33.1, 33.2) adjoining each other on at least one end, wherein

on a end adjoining one end of said second friction-lining segment (3.1, 3.2, 3.3; 13.1, 13.2; 23.1, 23.2; 33.1, 33.2), said first friction-lining segment (3.1, 3.2, 3.3; 13.1, 13.2; 23.1, 23.2; 33.1, 33.2) demonstrates a lock mechanism (4.1, 4.2, 4.3; 14.1; 24.1; 34.1), which

connects to a lock counter-mechanism (5.1, 5.2, 5.3; 15.2; 25.2; 35.2) arranged on the adjoining end of said second friction-lining segment_(3.1, 3.2, 3.3; 13.1, 13.2; 23.1, 23.2; 33.1, 33.2), forming a lock (6.1, 6.2, 6.3; 16.1; 26.1; 36.1).

characterized in that

at least one hole (8.1, 8.2, 8.3; 18.1; 28.1a, 28.1b; 38.1a, 38.1b, 38.1c, 38.2a) is provided in a vicinity (7.1, 7.2, 7.3; 17.1; 27.1; 37.1) of said lock (6.1, 6.2, 6.3; 16.1; 26.1; 36.1).

characterized in that

said lock mechanism (34.1) demonstrates a clip (4.1, 4.2, 4.3; 14.1; 24.1; 34.1a, 34.1b) having a neck (14.1b, 24.1b, 34.1b) and a head (14.1a, 24.1a, 34.1a), and that

said lock counter-mechanism (35.2) demonstrates a groove (5.1, 5.2, 5.3; 15.2; 25.2; 34.1c, 35.2c) which accommodates said clip (4.1, 4.2, 4.3; 14.1; 24.1; 34.1a, 34.1b) having said neck (14.1b, 24.1b, 34.1b) and said head (14.1a, 24.1a, 34.1a) essentially with positive fit, and that

said head (14.1a, 24.1a, 34.1a) demonstrates the at least one hole (8.1, 8.2, 8.3; 18.1; 38.1a).

10. (Original) Friction lining according to Claim 9, characterized in that at least one other hole (28.1a, 28.1b; 38.1b, 38.1c) is provided in the vicinity of said lock counter-mechanism (35.2) adjoining said groove (5.1, 5.2, 5.3; 15.2; 25.2; 34.1c, 35.2c).

11. (Previously Presented) Friction lining according to Claim 9 characterized in that

said lock counter-mechanism (35.2) demonstrates a clip having a neck (35.2b) and a head (35.2a), and that

said lock mechanism (34.1) demonstrates a groove (34.1c), which accommodates said clip having said neck (35.2b) and said head (35.2a) essentially with positive fit, and that

said head (35.2a) demonstrates at least one other hole (38.2a).

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously Presented) Friction plate (-1)

having a carrier (2, 32), and

having at least one friction lining (3, 13, 23, 33) arranged on at least one end face of said carrier (2, 32) in accordance with claim 8.

15. (Cancel)

16. (Previously Presented) Friction lining according to Claim 10, characterized in that

said lock counter-mechanism (35.2) demonstrates a clip having a neck (35.2b) and a head (35.2a), and that

said lock mechanism (34.1) demonstrates a groove (34.1c), which accommodates said clip having said neck (35.2b) and said head (35.2a) essentially with positive fit, and that

said head (35.2a) demonstrates at least one other hole (38.2a).

17. (Previously Presented) Friction plate (1)

having a carrier (2, 32), and

having at least one friction lining (3, 13, 23, 33) arranged on at least one end face of said carrier (2, 32) in accordance with claim 9.

18. (Previously Presented) Friction plate (1)

having a carrier (2, 32), and

having at least one friction lining (3, 13, 23, 33) arranged on at least one end face of said carrier (2, 32) in accordance with claim 10.

19. (Previously Presented) Friction plate (1)

having a carrier (2, 32), and

having at least one friction lining (3, 13, 23, 33) arranged on at least one end face of said carrier (2, 32) in accordance with claim 11.

20. (Previously Presented) Friction plate (1)

having a carrier (2, 32), and

Appl. No. 10/690,381
Amdt. Dated April 3, 2006
Reply to Office Action of February 10, 2006

having at least one friction lining (3, 13, 23, 33) arranged on at least one end face of said carrier (2, 32) in accordance with claim 16.